



## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

|  |           |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| <b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> :</b><br><b>H01M 4/36, 4/58, 4/60, 4/02, D01F 9/127</b>   | <b>A1</b> | <b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 99/50921</b><br><b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 7 October 1999 (07.10.99)  |
| <b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/EP99/01943<br><b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 23 March 1999 (23.03.99)<br><br><b>(30) Priority Data:</b><br>09/052,366 31 March 1998 (31.03.98) US<br>134351 28 April 1998 (28.04.98) JP<br><br><b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> AVENTIS RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGIES GMBH & CO. KG [DE/DE]; D-65926 Frankfurt am Main (DE).<br><br><b>(72) Inventors; and</b><br><b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> OGURA, Shizuo [JP/JP]; 3-31-25, Kamiigusa, Suginami-ku, Tokyo (JP). MOKUDAI, Hidehisa [JP/JP]; 1726, Maginu, Miyamae-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken (JP). MURATA, Makoto [JP/JP]; 2-4-6-508, Fujimi, Tsurugashima-shi, Saitama-ken (JP). DAVIES, Barrie, Linton [US/US]; 726 Skytop Road, Waxhaw, NC 28173-9329 (US).<br><br><b>(74) Common Representative:</b> AVENTIS RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGIES GMBH & CO. KG; Patent- und Lizenzabteilung, Gebäude K 801, D-65926 Frankfurt am Main (DE). |           | <b>(81) Designated States:</b> CA, JP, KR, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).<br><br><b>Published</b><br><i>With international search report.</i> |
| <b>(54) Title:</b> LITHIUM BATTERY AND ELECTRODE<br><br><b>(57) Abstract</b><br><br>An electrode includes an electrically conductive matrix containing a disulfide group, wherein an S-S bond of the disulfide group is cleaved by electrochemical reduction and reformed by electrochemical oxidation. A plurality of carbon nanotubes are substantially disentangled and dispersed in the electrically conductive matrix. The electrode can be used as a cathode of a lithium battery. A method for producing disentangled carbon nanotubes includes the steps of: adding a plurality of aggregates of carbon nanotubes to a liquid; and providing sheer force (e.g. passing the liquid through a narrow gap at a high speed) onto the liquid for disentangling the aggregates of carbon nanotubes therein.  |           |  |